



Mayor's Message

*Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council's
Mayor Jason Woibo's monthly message*

As new Councillors it was important that we needed to establish strong foundations as soon as possible into our term. Whilst COVID-19 repressed these for the first three months, we are now well on our way to serve the shire of Hope Vale through the Local Government Act's guiding principles. This has required an understanding of both internal and external stakeholder expectations, an understanding of how to deliver value, and clear communication of goals and objectives. To help maximise the value of our time we have invested our energies to plan for Hope Vale's future. We had a baptism of fire when first elected and have made every effort to learn more about Council's position in the Local Government arena. We have been actively listening and engaging in meaningful community engagement, social inclusion and communicating with staff, key government departments and key business stakeholders so that we, as your elected representatives, establish strong communication frameworks. We have familiarised ourselves with all the key compliance and regulatory documents which provide Council and community with transparent and effective processes and serve as a platform so that Council decision making is in the public interest. These documents have provided invaluable insight on where all Council functions are currently positioned and in particular, maximising the Civil and Building functions of Council so that we build and maintain Council assets and infrastructure in a sustainable manner, as these assets will be of significant importance for Hope Vale now and in years to come.

As your Councillors we are transforming these experiences learned into a blueprint for action. Using a combination of knowledge gathered from community engagement, internal and external stakeholder discussions, including positive meetings with State and Federal Parliamentary representatives, Cape and Regional Advocacy Groups and other assessments, we have categorised the Council's business priorities based on the 2020-2021 Budget, the 2020-2021 Annual Operational Plan and the Asset Management Plans.

Looking forward

In the coming months we will be reviewing the non-regulatory documents including the Economic Development Strategy, Communications and Media Strategy, Hopevale Master Plan and our Risk Management Framework which should serve as best business practice.

Throughout September we also began the process of reviewing the Community Safety Plan. As Council, we expect that broad consultations and other authentic engagement processes will be undertaken with the members of the Hope Vale Justice Group, NGO's, other government agencies and most importantly, Hope Vale residents to contribute in developing the plan. The plan must establish monitoring and reviewing mechanisms and implement foundation actions. Regarding the way Hope Vale wishes to approach a renewed approach to alcohol.

I am extremely pleased to advise that we are currently working on \$4.418M worth of capital projects in progress occurring within Hope Vale. These projects fall under asset categories of Roads, Water & Sewerage, Parklands, Community Buildings and Other Infrastructure. This figure is on top of the current Housing plug in program works worth \$2.35M, existing maintenance, upgrade and other associated building works totalling \$1.75M YTD. We have a busy year ahead.

I believe that we have constituted some of these opportunities through current and newly formed relationships and because the ideas have been embraced by all levels of government, management and employees.

I as Mayor, and the Councillors, believe that Councils idea's align with the needs of the community and Council, accelerating progress in our desired direction of infrastructure asset creation and local employment that these works bring.

Regards

Cr Jason Woibo, Mayor